

Title: Substance Abuse and the Effects on One's Ability to Parent

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Overview/Description:

This workshop will provide the participant with a better understanding of the characteristics of substance-abusing parents involved with child welfare and the effect of parental substance abuse on the infant and/or child. Current trends in substance abuse will be discussed and special emphasis will be focused on identifying the signs of being under the influence and preventing and/or intervening in potential crisis situations during child visitation session. Successful approaches to developing rapport and working with the substance abusing parents will be presented.

Learning Objectives:

1. Increase knowledge of prevalence and patterns of substance abuse among parents in the child welfare system.
2. Increase awareness of the characteristics and complications of substance abusing parents in child welfare.
3. Gain a working knowledge of the signs of inebriation, intoxication, or being under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs and improve their ability to deal with parents who are under the influence at a child visit.
4. Improve the ability to prevent, de-escalate, and/or intervene in a crisis situation as a result of parental substance usage during visitation.
5. Improve ability to develop rapport with substance abusing parents to promote successful visitation for the parent and the child.

Number of Contact Hours: 4 hours

Content:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Background Information on Substance-Abusing Families Involved with Child Welfare
3. Prevalence and Patterns of Parental Substance Usage in Child Welfare
4. Signs and Symptoms of Being Under the Influence
5. Let's Do What's Best for the Child: Rapport-Building Approaches to Successfully Working with Substance Abusing Parents During Visitation
6. Safety First and Foremost: Handling Crisis Situations Early and Effectively